

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Approved For Release 2002/07/03 : CIA-RDP82-00803R000400150101-8

Department of State

Cyprus Status

37
Action

CONFIDENTIAL

Control: 25696

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Info

FROM: NICOSIA

TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 66, JULY 31, 1 PM

DEPTEL 51.

SEE EMBASSY'S A-24 AND A-31 RE PRESS REPORTS ON US
COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES. SUMMARY AIRGRAM WITH COMMENTS
FOLLOWS.

EMBASSY DOES NOT BELIEVE PRESS REPORTS ARE INSPIRED BY GOC
ALTHOUGH THEY DO COINCIDE WITH DESIRES WITHIN GOC TO
RESTRICT PRESENT UNLIMITED TAX EXEMPTION OF NON-
DIPLOMATIC US PERSONNEL.

TIMING OF ARTICLES APPEARS PRODUCT OF COMMUNIST EFFORT
CAPITALIZE AND ENLARGE ON BRIGGS TESTIMONY. SUCH ARTICLES MAKE
SPLASH DURING SUMMER QUIET, WHEN PRESS IS LOOKING FOR "NEWS"
OF LOCAL INTEREST. MOSCOW PUBLICATION OF HAMILTON LETTER
OF COURSE REINFORCED AND PROLONGED OUTCRY OF COMMUNIST ORGAN
HARAVGHI.

WHILE WE NATURALLY CANNOT IGNORE EXISTENCE SUCH PRESS ATTACKS
WE DO NOT REGARD THEM TO DATE AS SERIOUS ENOUGH TO CAUSE
IMMEDIATE CONCERN OR TO WARRANT RESPONSE BEYOND THAT RELEASED
TO CYPRUS NEWS AGENCY JULY 15.

GP-3.

MCKIERNAN

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State Department review completed

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